

REMARKS

Claims 3-9 and 19-20 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 3-5 and 7-9 are amended, claim 19 is added, and claims 1-2 and 10-18 are canceled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject contained therein. However, Applicants reserve the right to file a Divisional application directed to the non-elected claims. No new matter is added.

Applicants appreciate the courtesies extended to Applicants' representative during the telephone interview conducted on October 28, 2003. Applicants' separate record of the substance of the interview is incorporated into the following remarks.

It is noted that a completed, initialed PTO-1449 filed September 11, 2002 has not been received. In particular, the reference of "Deutscher Drucker" has not been initialed by the Examiner. Thus, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner consider this reference and forward a completed and initialed PTO-1449 in the next communication. For the convenience of the Examiner, another copy of the PTO-1449 filed September 11, 2002, has been attached hereto.

I. Formal Matters

The Office Action objects to the Abstract under MPEP §608.01(b). However, Applicants respectfully submit that an amended Abstract was filed with the June 18, 2003 Amendment that made the requested Amendment. For the convenience of the Examiner, attached with this Amendment is a copy of the Abstract filed June 18, 2003. Thus, withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

The Office Action objects to the title because it is not descriptive. By this Amendment, the title has been amended as suggested by the Examiner. Thus, withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

II. The Claims Define Patentable Subject Matter

The Office Action rejects claims 1-10 and 18 under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Wolf, U.S. Patent 2,361,140 in view of Dixon et al. (hereinafter "Dixon"), U.S. Patent 2,699,936. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Foremost, it is noted that claim 1 has been replaced with claim 19. However, Applicants respectfully traverse any rejection based on Wolf and Dixon.

As discussed and agreed during the interview, Wolf and Dixon, individually or in combination, fail to disclose or suggest printing the sheets which form a copy of the newspaper sequentially one after the other by using a digital printing machine, as recited in claims 19 and 20.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Wolf and Dixon, individually or in combination, fail to disclose or render obvious the features recited in independent claims 19 and 20. Claims 3-9, which depend from independent claim 19 are likewise distinguished over the applied art for at least the reasons discussed above, as well as for the additional features they recite. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103 are respectfully requested.

III. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claim 3-9 and 19-20 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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JAO:DJC/djb

Attachment:
Abstract
PTO-1449

Date: October 28, 2003

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method of producing a newspaper ~~(7, 8, 9)~~ comprises having at least one section ~~(3, 4, 5)~~ which is formed from at least one centrally folded printed sheet ~~(1)~~, ~~and an apparatus implements the method.~~ The following steps are carried out according to the invention:

a) individual sequentially printed sheets ~~(1)~~, which are intended for forming the individual sections ~~(3, 4, 5)~~ of the newspaper ~~(7, 8, 9)~~, are fed continuously to a first collecting station, and sheets ~~(1)~~ which are assigned to one common section ~~(3, 4, 5)~~ are positioned one above the other (collected) to form a sheet stack ~~(2)~~; b) a finished sheet stack ~~(2)~~ is conveyed away from the first collecting station ~~(10)~~, a first sheet ~~(1)~~ of a further section ~~(3, 4, 5)~~ being fed to the first collecting station ~~(10)~~ while the preceding sheet stack ~~(2)~~ is being conveyed away from the first collecting station ~~(10)~~ or once it has been conveyed away therefrom; c) the finished sheet stack ~~(2)~~ is folded in order to produce a section ~~(3, 4, 5)~~; d) the section ~~(3, 4, 5)~~ is deposited in a second collecting station ~~(12)~~ such that it comes to rest on, if appropriate, an already deposited section ~~(3, 4, 5)~~; e) the steps a) to d) are repeated, if appropriate, until all the sections ~~(3, 4, 5)~~ of the newspaper ~~(7, 8, 9)~~ have been completed and positioned one upon the other to form a section stack ~~(15)~~.